

June 22, 2001

2001 Battle, Lewis & Thornton Family Reunion
c/o Alberta Smith
3549 Hollywood Avenue
Jackson, Mississippi 39213

Dear Friends:

As Governor of Mississippi, I am privileged to extend a very special welcome to all friends and family in attendance at the 2001 Battle, Lewis & Thornton Family Reunion. All Mississippians are honored that you have chosen, "The Hospitality State", as the place to gather and reunite your family. Welcome to the beautiful and friendly City of Jackson, the capitol of this great State of Mississippi.

Family reunions are very special. They remind us of our ancestors, our common heritage and kinships that transcend both time and place. I hope you enjoy your time here in Mississippi and create many treasured memories and friendships that will last a lifetime.

As each of you face the future, I hope you will draw strength from your family and from that part of your common heritage that will be forever and indelibly a part of Mississippi. Best wishes on many more wonderful years together.

Very truly yours,

RONNIE MUSGROVE

RM/kfg